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An overview of drug delivery vehicles for cancer treatment: Nanocarriers and nanoparticles including photovoltaic nanoparticles (Short Survey)

Chowdhury, S.^a, Yusof, F.^b✉, Salim, W.W.A.W.^b, Sulaiman, N.^a, Faruck, M.O.^b

^a Department of Mechatronics Engineering, Kuliyah of Engineering, International Islamic University Malaysia, Jalan Gombak, P.O. Box 10, Kuala Lumpur, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

^b Department of Biotechnology Engineering, Kuliyah of Engineering, International Islamic University Malaysia, Jalan Gombak, P.O. Box 10, Kuala Lumpur, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Abstract

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Cancer is a complicated disease for which finding a cure presents challenges. In recent decades, new ways to treat **cancer** are being sought; one being nanomedicine, which manipulates **nanoparticles** to target a **cancer** and release drugs directly to the **cancer** cells. A number of **cancer** treatments based on nanomedicine are under way and mostly are in preclinical trials owing to challenges in administration, safety, and effectiveness. One alternative method for **drug delivery** is the use of **photovoltaic nanoparticles**, which has the potential to deliver drugs via light activation. The concepts are based on standard **photovoltaic** cell that holds opposite charges on its surfaces and releases drugs when charge intensity or polarity changes upon photo-stimulation such as from a laser source or sunlight. This review will cover some recent progress in **cancer treatment** using **nanoparticles**, including **photovoltaic nanoparticles**. © 2016 Elsevier B.V.

Author keywords

Cancer; Drug delivery system; Nanocarriers; Nanoparticles; Photovoltaic nanoparticles

Indexed keywords

EMTREE drug terms: antineoplastic agent; nanoparticle

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